the Central Government and the host State Government share expenditure in the ratio of 50:50 subject to a ceiling of Rs. one crore so far as Central Grant is concerned. As the estimated budget submitted by the State Government of Haryana for hosting the 7th National Youth Festival at Hissar during 12-16th Jan., 2002 was more than Rs. two crore, the Central Government has released an amount of Rs. 75.00 lakh as first instalment and the balance will be released on receipt of statement of actual expenditure subject to a ceiling of Rs. one crore.

(b) and (c) The provision of assistance upto a maximum ceiling of Rs. one crore was made in the revised scheme of Promotion of National Integration only during the current financial year. In earlier years, State Governments hosting the Festival were provided with financial grants based on a realistic assessment of the estimated expenditure. The assistance provided to the Govts, of Tamil Nadu, Govt, of Uttar Pradesh and Govt, of Gujarat for the National Youth Festivals hosted by them during 1998, 1999, 2000 was Rs. 50.00 lakh, Rs. 50.00 lakh, Rs. 48.30 lakh respectively.

Financial Assistance for playing areas in Andhra Pradesh

1473. SHRI K. RAMA MOHAN A RAO: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a request has been received from the Andhra Pradesh Government for sanctioning of financial assistance of Rs. 50 crores to build playing areas of International standards, in view of the National Games at Hyderabad in this year;

(b) if so, when such request was received in the Ministry; and

(c) the steps taken to release the amount?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI P. RADHAKIRISHNAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The request from the Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh was received during September 2001.

(c) As there is no provision for *adhoc* or one time grant in lump-sum for creation of sports facilities for the National Games, the Chief Minister was requested on 27.11.2001 to get the proposals formulated in accordance with the prescribed norms of the Scheme of Grants for Creation of Sports Infrastructure for availing admissible assistance.